

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /134 W

----- 087595

R 111500Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4107

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 4403

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR

SUBJECT: ANTI-MAKARIOS STREET PROPAGANDA

1. HANDBILLS AND PRINTED POSTERS WITH SLOGANS DIRECTED AGAINST ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS APPEARED EARLY THIS WEEK IN CENTRAL ATHENS AND DISAPPEARED FOLLOWING DAY. STICK-ON POSTERS WERE REMOVED AND HAND-PAINTED WALL SLOGANS COVERED OVER WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF THEIR APPEARANCE. POSTERS ON WALLS NEAR ATHENS UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS ACCUSED ARCHBISHOP OF "TREASON AGAINST GREEK NATION" AND APPEALED FOR UNITED ACTION AGAINST MAKARIOS.

2. HANDBILLS, WHICH EMBASSY DID NOT OBTAIN, REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED MAKARIOS AS "POWER-HUNGRY MONK" AND A "ROBE-WEARING HITLER AND NATIONAL TRAITOR." ACCORDING TO ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER ATHENS MIRROR LEAFLETS CHARGED MAKARIOS WANTED TO SHELVE ENOSIS AT ALL COSTS SOLELY TO MAINTAIN HIMSELF IN POWER. MIRROR POINTED OUT INASMUCH AS POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND WALL SLOGANS ARE BANNED UNDER MARTIAL LAW ANTI-MAKARIOS PROPAGANDA INDICATED OFFICIAL TOLERANCE.

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3. PROMPT REMOVAL OF ANTI-MAKARIOS POSTERS SUGGESTS GOG,

WHATEVER ITS INITIAL POSITION ON POSTER CAMPAIGN MAY HAVE
BEEN, DECIDED IT WAS INPRUDENT TO RISK EXACERBATING
ATHENS/NICOSIA RELATIONS IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES,
PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF SITUATION CREATED AFTER MAKARIOS
JULY 6 PRESS CONFERENCE.
BROWN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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